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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Moore DATE TYPED 2/2/04 HB 148/aHEC

SHORT TITLE NMSU Veterinarian for Animal Research SB _____

ANALYST Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	\$200.0			Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Duplicates SB 60

Relates to Appropriation for New Mexico State University in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
 Funding Recommendations for FY05

Response Received From
 New Mexico State University
 College of Agriculture & Home Economics

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee amendment adds an evaluation requirement which reads as follows:

“The institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by August 2007 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program over a three period.”

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 148 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to employ a veterinarian for animal health research and education services through the Cooperative Extension Service (CES).

Significant Issues

NMSU reports the College of Agriculture and Home Economics does not have a veterinarian on its faculty and is expected to provide information and support to the state's livestock industries. The addition of this expertise to the faculty would enable NMSU to better serve the information and training needs of its clients in the livestock industry.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$78 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY05 shall revert to the general fund.

DUPLICATION

SB 60 duplicates HB 148.

AMENDMENTS

The following language is suggested for all new recurring higher education programs and expansion of current programs (assuming that funding will continue beyond FY05):

“The institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by August 2007 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program over a three period.”

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The NMSU Board of Regents did not submit this program expansion request to the CHE; consequently, the Commission did not recommend funding for this program.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Was this proposal submitted to the NMSU Board of Regents for their consideration?
2. If so, does anyone know why it was not submitted to the CHE?
3. If this proposal was not submitted to the NMSU Board of Regents, why not?

RLG/lg:yr